

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 /111 W

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P 260933Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9480

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SELUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13036

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, RP/US/KS

SUBJ: KOREAN QUESTION

REF: (A) STATE 211445; (B) MANILA 12868; (C) MANILA 12684

1.ON AUGUST 26, EMBOFFS DISCUSSED KOREAN QUESTION ITH
DFA'S ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO), AMBASSADOR VERCELES.
EMBOFFS SAID THEY HAD BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH KOREAN
EMBASSY AND THAT KOREAN AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN INFORMED BY
GENERAL ROMULO THAT HE (ROMULO) SAW NO PROBLEM IN GOP
CO-SPONSORING FRIENDLY RESOLUTION (REFTEL B). VERCELES
NOTED ROMULO HAD TOLD KOREAN AMBASSADOR HE FIRST
WANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR REYES.
ACCORDING TO VERCELES, REYES AND ROMULO WERE TO CONFER TODAY.
HE HOPED GOP WOULD HAVE FINALIZED POSITION WITHIN A FEW DAYS.
VERCELES SEEMED LESS POSITIVE THAN ROMULO ABOUT POSSIBLE
GOP CO-SPONSORSHIP BUT SAID FRIENDLY RESOLUTION THIS
YEAR SEEMED MORE "INNOCUOUS" THAN LAST YEAR. THUS, GOP
"MORE INCLINED" TO CO-SPONSOR THAN LAST YEAR WHEN CO-
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SPONSORSHIP CAME AT ELEVENTH HOUR AFTER FAILURE OF ASEAN

COMPROMISE FORMULATION.

2. ACCORDING TO VERCELES, THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO ASEAN CONSENSUS ON KOREAN QUESTION. CO-SPONSORSHIP BY MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE IS OUT ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY BOTH INDONESIA AND THAILAND MIGHT CO-SPONSOR. IN ANY EVENT, VERCELES SAID MATTER MUST BE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL DURING ASEAN UNGA CONSULTATIONS WHICH ARE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 1 AND 2 IN MANILA.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE ROMULO'S ASSURANCES TO SOUTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR (REFTEL B), IT IS EVIDENT GOP HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO CO-SPONSOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. PRESUMABLY, DECISION MIGHT BE MADE AFTER ASEAN CONSULTATIONS, ALTHOUGH LACK OF CONSENSUS WITHIN ASEAN AND ASEAN'S DESIRE TO AGAIN PLAY "MEDIATORY" ROLE MIGHT PROMPT POSTPONEMENT OF DECISION UNTIL LATER.
SULLIVAN

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